



# Little River Currents

## MEGWAA EZHIWEBAAK

### Little River Rider at Mackinaw Mush

Tribal member Isabel 'Izzy' Burger, age 5, of West Branch, Michigan began her career as a musher, competing in the tiny tots class at the 15th Annual Mackinaw Mush, Mackinaw City, Michigan, January 31 & February 1, 2004.

Izzy, who ran in exhibition with her 'team' (an Alaskan Malamute named Uno), is learning the mushing vocabulary, "Hike!" to start the team running, "Gee" and "Haw" to turn left or right and she's also learning the fundamentals of handling a sled.

Izzy may be the first Little River Band member to compete in this sport, and hopes to "run the big sleds with four dogs" by next winter.

**Good Luck Izzy!**



### Doctors Express Health Care Concerns about Northern Lights project

In a letter addressed to Jon Rose, Community Development Director for the City of Manistee, a group of 10 area doctors made it clear that they were not in favor of the development of the Northern Lights coal plant, also known as the "Northern Blight" project by some.

The doctors sent their letter on February 18, just two days before over 500 people gathered at the Manistee Middle school to voice their opinions in a public meeting held by the City Planning Commission. Although Joe Tondou, the coal plant developer, spoke to the Commission for an hour the community spent another two hours expressing theirs. About 20 people spoke in those two hours, many speaking against the project.

Similar opinions, like this one from the doctors' letter, state the community's voice as a whole, *"...the future perception of pollution by tourists and outdoorsmen... could be economically devastating."* *"Such potential risks to health invite one to ask what the benefit to our community might be. That answer, ostensibly, is economic. However, given that the facility will be municipally-owned by such distant consumers as Hillsdale and Holland, taxes will not be assessed for the benefit of Manistee. The future perception of pollution by tourists and outdoorsmen who have been attracted to our area by clean water and air could be economically devastating to our local economy if tourists then elect to recreate elsewhere, out of eye sight of the 400 foot smokestacks which would define our skyline."*

According to dictionary.com the word blight has a number of meanings, including devastation of crops and plant life. Whether you pick version number 1, *"...An extremely adverse environmental condition, such as air pollution"* or version number 2, *"...Something that impairs growth, withers hopes and ambitions, or impedes progress and prosperity"* your choice pretty much hits the nail on the head when using the word blight to describe the concept of having this

coal plant on the Manistee Reservation. Tribal members who live off the Reservation have just as much concern about the proposed coal plant because they have family and friends living in or near Manistee. Other members have expressed concerns about moving to the area if the Tondou project goes through because they don't want their families exposed to chemicals in any way. They also worry about trying to get to the local hospital in an emergency if another coal barge is blocking road access at the bridge.

One of the doctors who signed the letter and also sent her own separate letter is a pediatrician. She specifically addressed her worries about having children exposed to coal plant pollution. *"A coal plant would greatly increase the amount of particulate matter in the air, all of which are irritants to the lungs. It has been shown that nearly 6% of children living within 30 miles of a coal powered plant have asthma. Additionally, infants in high pollution areas are 40% more likely to die of respiratory disease."* She continues on to say that she *"recently moved to this area and is not pleased to find you (the commission) is considering reducing the air quality here and hence, the quality of life of the residents here. I am sure you will hear reports from other doctors about the risks of power plant emissions..."*

Another doctor, a life long Michigan resident, surgeon and avid outdoorsman told the Commission (in his also separate letter) that he could provide hundreds of well documented studies that coal burning utilities are the largest source of environmental pollution. Heavy metals like mercury, cadmium, lead, chromium and arsenic are released into the atmosphere and never break down. They can cause cancer, and irreversible neurological and developmental problems. He believes that the cost to the community in health care dollars will far exceed any benefits that might come from developing a coal plant in Manistee. The costs to the com-

*"Doctors Express Concerns" continued on page 8*





# Outlook from the Ogemaa

Boozhoo,

There are several major challenges that we face as a Tribe as we continue to work on the Reservation Restoration Plan. These challenges could have a major impact on the Tribe's revenues and our jurisdiction in the 1836 and 1855 reservation territories. I want to let the membership know what the challenges are, and what actions the Tribal Council and my Office are taking to address the problems.

The State of Michigan is now considering the "Racino" bill. The bill has been passed by the House and is in committee on the Senate side. The bill if passed in its current form would essentially create 7 casinos at racetracks and up to 15 off track betting sites that would also have electronic games of chance. The impact to our revenues at the Little River Casino Resort could be a 20% to 30% decrease per year.

We are working with our lobbying firm in Lansing, and with the other tribes in Michigan to lessen the impact of the Racino bill on our interest. Tribal Council member Lisa McCatty nominated Pamela Medahko to represent the Tribal Council as Legislative Liaison to the lobbying firm. My office and Tribal Council members are in communication with Lansing officials and other Tribes to develop strategies to protect Indian Gaming in Michigan.

The message that Lansing needs to hear is that the Racino bill does not just impact Indians. Indian Gaming in Michigan employs thousands of non-Indians as well as supporting hundreds of local businesses. Tribes contribute to local communities through the 2% revenue sharing agreement. The 2% distribution to local units of government may also decrease by 20% to 30% if the Racino bill passes.

One of the reasons the Little River Casino and Resort has prospered is because of the small town atmosphere, excellent hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation in the Manistee area. It has become the destination of choice for many people and the Casino is a large part of the Resort Destination. The proposed 425 megawatt coal powered electrical generation plant, by Tondur Corporation from Houston, threatens the small town atmosphere, human health, the health of fish and wildlife, and many of the quality of life attributes that make Manistee a destination of choice.

In addition, we face the challenge of new casinos and expansion of existing casinos from Tribes in Michigan. We support Indian Gaming in Michigan. However, we are in

competition for finite gaming dollars that our customers spend. If we stand still and do not improve our current gaming options and destination resort development, we will lose market share which will decrease the revenues we currently generate by tens of millions of dollars annually.

As I have indicated, we are in the final stages of our feasibility study to increase hotel accommodations and amenities for our guest to maintain our market share. I will be addressing this issue and the Reservation Restoration Plan at the membership meeting on April 17th. I will also be traveling to meet with the membership. Below are the tentative dates. We are working on confirming times and exact locations and will announce them in the next issue of Little River Currents.

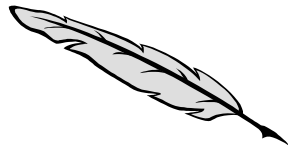
## Tentative Workshop Schedule:

- April 24 Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula
- May 1 Milwaukee
- May 22 Grand Rapids
- June 5 Muskegon
- June 19 Custer/Manistee

We are also working with national and regional American Indian organizations to address the shortcomings of the Federal appropriations to Tribes in areas such as Health Care, Elders Assistance and Education. There are also bills in Congress that could impact the sovereignty of the Little River Band and affect jurisdictional issues that protect our interests. Organizations that we participate in are the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST).

Health Care is currently being funded at 38% of the need in this region. Other regions in the US receive over 50% of the need. Our position is that the Federal Government has an obligation to fund 100% of the need for Indian Tribes. To begin with we need to at least reach the 50% level that other Tribes currently receive. The Tribal Health Director, Tribal Council and my office are working to achieve these goals. This could mean the addition of hundreds of thousands of dollars to increase services to our membership. This is true for Elders Assistance and Education and many other areas also.

Miigwetch,



Lee



The Great Seal of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was designed by Jay Sam of Manistee, Michigan and adopted for use by the LRBOI Tribal Council.

There is great meaning in the seal for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The central feature is a river, not any one in particular. The bands of people that are now known as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians used all of the rivers in western Lower Michigan. Our people were riverine in nature and the valleys and land surrounding the river symbolize the fertility and wealth of resources found along the rivers. Where the sky meets the water the lands close a little to indicate the Great Lakes that were important to our people too. The pine tree on the side of the design represents peace and prosperity. Two eagles fly near the tree, a pair to represent balance and eagles because they carry prayer to the Creator. A medicine wheel, or sacred circle, surrounds the seal with the four directions and colors used by the Anishinaabek. The earth enters the east to show we will always seek and be ready to begin anew as the day does. And finally, nine feathers hang from the circle to represent the nine Ogemuk, or chiefs, that today's members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians trace their heritage to.

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Little River Currents is published monthly by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Currents welcomes all Letters to the Editor and other tribal member submissions but does not guarantee placement nor do published submissions necessarily reflect the views of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

**Submission Guidelines:** Artwork, photos, and poetry will be sent back to you if you send it with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return it in. Please include your full name, Tribal identification number and current mailing address with all submissions. If submissions are sent on behalf of a child who is a descendent of a tribal member, please include the parent or guardian tribal identification number. If sending photos or artwork please include a description of the subject as well.

## Dedications must be received 30 days in advance.

Currents is distributed free to all LRBOI Tribal citizens by mail and to Tribal employees at select locations. Subscriptions are available at a yearly rate of \$17.00. For Elders age 55 or more subscription rates are \$12.00 in the United States. Foreign rates are based on shipping and handling expenses. Bulk copies of Currents are available to share with others: 10 copies for \$5.00 or 25 copies for \$15.00. Bulk copies are mailed to one address. Please call for pricing on 25 or more copies.

Little River Currents is located at 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660. For assistance please contact the Currents office at [currents@lrboi.com](mailto:currents@lrboi.com) or call Melissa Zelenak at 1-231-723-8288.

## CHS and EHAP News

Aanii. Hope you are all anticipating Spring like we are! I cannot wait to see how my girls and I did planting bulbs (first time!) and if and where they come up!

First, I would like to make sure that the confusion regarding Kmart Pharmacy is addressed. We **ARE** using Kmart Pharmacy in Manistee. They are the only Kmart store that bills us regularly for the membership. If and when there are changes regarding pharmacy usage, you will be notified well in advance in this newspaper.

I also have the usual reminders for both programs. First, remember you need to call **AT LEAST** 48 hours in advance for non-emergency/life-threatening appointments. You may

call as soon as you know when your next appointment is, you do not have to wait! Also, if you have referral appointments from the clinic, you do have to call **ALL** of those into the CHS/EHAP office with a 48-hour advance notice.

Second, I would like to compliment you all on getting your reassessments in to us in a timely manner, Chi-Miigwech!

Third, if you live within 90-minutes (one-way surface travel) of an Indian Health Services clinic, you must seek care there first if you want CHS or EHAP to pay for the medications, testing, etc. There is a clinic in Grand Traverse Band (Peshawbestown), Little Traverse Bay Band (Petoskey), Saginaw Chippewa (Mt. Pleasant), Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Munising, Manistique, Escanaba, Newberry (all Soo Tribe), Lac Vieux Desert

(Watersmeet), Keweenaw Bay (Baraga), Hannahville (Wilson), Bay Mills (Brimley) and ours in Manistee. These are all just in the State of Michigan. There are 11 clinics in Wisconsin alone. If you are in doubt, **please ask**.

Finally, please do not forget to keep submitting bills that you receive from Quest Diagnostics. They bill every 2 to 3 weeks. If you think you received a bill in error do not hesitate to call us, we may not have received the bill or could just be waiting for additional information.

Thank you for your help and time. Remember to call with any questions or concerns regarding CHS or EHAP. The toll free number is 1.888.382.8299 or 231.723.8299.

Respectfully,  
Gina Wright

## Aki Maadiziwin Elder Housing Update

Currently, there are rental homes available at Aki Maadiziwin. These homes are open to low income Little River Band Elders, over age 55. Rent is based on 20% of your gross monthly adjusted income. The tenants pay their own utilities. If you are interested in living in this community, or have any questions, please call the Housing Department at 1-888-723-8288. Sorry, no pets are allowed in these new homes.

## Housing Department News

The Little River Band Housing Department would like to announce that the REACH Program is now accepting applications for qualified homeowners.

This program is intended to promote health and safety in the home, along with the importance of energy conservation and self-sufficiency. This program is available in the nine county service area for low-income families. To request an application please call our office at 231.723.8288 or toll free 888.723.8288 ext. 6729.



## HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK ALONE

If everyone who gets this sends it to 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life. Let's say it's 6:15 p.m. and you're driving home (alone of course), after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home; unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course neglected to tell you how to perform it on yourself. Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seemed to be in order. Without help, the person whose heart stops beating properly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness! However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest, and a cough must be repeated about every 2 seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

Tell as many other people as possible about this, it could save their lives!

From F. Daniel Rochman MD  
Health Cares  
Rochester General Hospital

*"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children."*

## Advertise Nationwide with Little River Currents

*For less than \$1 a day!*

Ask about the Merchant Benefit Program today!

Mail your business card to us for the Goods & Services Directory. We'll scan it and print it in black and white for you in the next issue.

Deadline for submissions is the 1st of the month for publication in following month's issue.

Send your \$25 check or money order made payable to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Special Advertising Packages for Tribal Members

Little River Currents,  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

*Tribal members send just \$20.00. Include Tribal identification number on back of your business card and on check or money order.*



## Smog in Northwestern Lower Peninsula

Tonight I finished a project for one of my clients, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (LRBOI). The Tribe had asked me to develop comments to the EPA Regional Administrator concerning a public health matter in Northwestern Michigan.

The (Governor) Granholm Administration had filed a recommendation with the EPA saying that Manistee and Oceana Counties should be considered as meeting public health standards for ozone/smog, even as Muskegon, Mason and Benzie Counties show violations of health standards from air monitoring that MDEQ does there.

There are no ozone monitors in Manistee and Oceana Counties, so both the Granholm Administration and EPA Region V were prepared to hold that Manistee and Oceana County were clean....even when all of these areas receive overwhelming long range transport of air pollution over Lake Michigan.

Because Engler (previous Michigan Governor) starved air quality monitoring efforts, Michigan does not have an air quality monitoring network on our shoreline counties like Wisconsin has. The Wisconsin network found air quality standard violations from the Illinois line all the way to the tip of the Door Peninsula.

Recently the Ogema of the Little River Band, Lee Sprague, filed 38 pages of comments justifying the Tribe's recommendation that the EPA reverse its preliminary decision and proceed to designate Manistee and Oceana Counties as ozone non-attainment areas. You can view these comments at: [http://www.sagady.com/workproduct/LRBOI\\_O3DesignationComments.pdf](http://www.sagady.com/workproduct/LRBOI_O3DesignationComments.pdf)

In helping to prepare these comments for the Tribe, I asked Rory Snowarrow Flint Knife, one of the Tribe's attorneys, to provide some Traditionalist thoughts on the subject of clean air that I could include in the petition to the EPA. He requested Jimmie Mitchell, Chair of the LRBOI Natural Resources Commission to share his thoughts. All of you who work on clean air and environment will find inspirations in Mitchell's words:

*"Huddled within the pitch-black confines of a sweat lodge, as traditional Indian people we place our medicine upon the lava-hot rocks in anticipation of feeling the sacred breath of our ancient ones, speaking to us of the things we need to know to live good lives. The air we breathe is a sacred gift from the Gzhé mnidoó (the Creator). It provides oxygen for our blood, which is fed into our heart, the center of our being. It provides the medium that permits us to communicate with one another; to sing, praise, and seek the guidance of our Creator; and to advise our children of what they need to know to grow into good people. Whispering even the most basic phrase, "I Love you," would not be possible without air. The purity of this sacred element is crucial to every living thing on the planet, and is something that we must not stand by and allow to be spoiled in the name of progress. From the first breath we take into sound - our birth-cry - to the last breath that leaves us as we cross over to the other side, we rely on the "purity" of this gift the Creator bestowed upon us all."*

*Miigwetch, Jimmie Mitchell*  
LRB Odawa

Submitted on behalf of Alex J. Sagady & Associates PO Box 39, East Lansing, MI 48826-0039 (517) 332-6971; (517) 332-8987 (fax); [ajs@sagady.com](mailto:ajs@sagady.com): Environmental Enforcement, Permit/Technical Review, Public Policy, Evidence Review and Litigation Investigation on Air, Water and Waste/Community Environmental and Resource Protection. Prospectus at: <http://www.sagady.com/sagady.pdf>

### Easier on the eyes...

**You may have noticed that the font in this issue of Currents is bigger than previous issues.**

**Some Elders expressed their desire for larger print so we enlarged the type two sizes to accommodate their wishes.**

*Many thanks to everyone for your input on the new look of the newspaper.*

### Tribe's Sturgeon Research Wins Award

At the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Kansas City, MO the Tribe and Michigan Tech presented a poster detailing the findings of the past two years of sturgeon research. Justin Chiotti, a Michigan Tech grad student who is working with the LRBOI, was responsible for creating the poster and answering questions for conference attendees about the findings, research techniques and experimental design. On December 17th, the Conservation Department received a call from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources informing that Justin's poster won the "Best Student Poster Award", a prestigious award that recognizes the accomplishments of exemplary students and research. This award was especially rewarding because Justin was competing with at least 50 other students and agencies for the award.

*You can view the poster in the LRBOI Conservation Department Office.*

### AL MUMA EARNS CERTIFICATION AS A SENIOR PROFESSIONAL IN HUMAN RESOURCES

Manistee, MI, January 22, 2004 – Al Muma, Director of Human Resources, Little River Casino Resort recently earned certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR).

The certification, awarded by the Human Resource Certification Institute (HRCI), signifies that Al possesses the theoretical knowledge and practical experience in human resource management necessary to pass a rigorous examination demonstrating a mastery of the body of knowledge in the field.

"Certification as a human resource professional clearly demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and to the human resource profession," said Susan Meisinger, SPHR, President and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). HRCI awards two levels of certification: Professional in Human Resources (PHR) and Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR).

To become certified, an applicant must pass a comprehensive examination and demonstrate a strong background of professional human resource experience.

HRCI is the credentialing body for human resource professionals and is affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the world's largest organization dedicated exclusively to the human resource profession. The Institute's purpose is to promote the establishment of professional standards and to recognize professionals who meet those standards. **GOOD JOB, AL!**

Commodity Department Update

Submitted by Yvonne Theodore, Director

The Commodity Department is looking forward to taking certification and training classes this year. The total of classes taken for the year of 2003: Director was required to take a total of 21, the Assistant was required to take a total of 19, and Warehouse staff was required to take a total of 12. The Commodity Department is not sure how many classes are in store for the new year of 2004 but all we can say is “BRING IT ON.”

Creamy Marshmallow Fudge

- 4 cups sugar
- 1 large (15 oz.) Carnation Evaporated Milk
- 2 sticks Parkay margarine
- pinch of salt
- 1 12 oz. bag semi-sweet chocolate morsels
- 1 7 oz. jar marshmallow cream
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups chopped walnuts

Put the sugar, milk, salt, and margarine in a large heavy-bottomed saucepan. Bring to a full boil. Boil, stirring, until the mixture reaches the soft ball stage (234 degrees). Remove from heat and stir in remaining ingredients, stirring until well blended. Pour into a buttered 13 x9 x2 pan and cool completely. Cut into 1 inch squares.

Big Shamrock Cookie

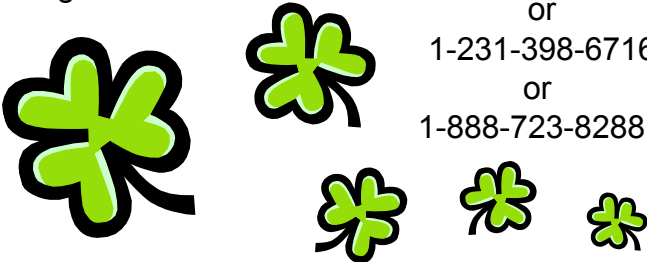
- 1 (18-oz.) package NESTLÉ® TOLL HOUSE® Refrigerated Sugar Cookie Bar Dough

Preheat oven to 325° F. Grease large baking sheet. Shape dough into 8-inch shamrock shape on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 16 to 18 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool on baking sheet for 2 minutes; carefully loosen cookie with spatula. Cool on baking sheet completely. Decorate with icing.

Counties Served

Benzie  
Grand Traverse  
Lake  
Leelanau  
Manistee  
Mason  
Muskegon  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Ottawa  
Wexford  
Osecola  
Mecosta

For information call  
1-231-398-6715  
or  
1-231-398-6716  
or  
1-888-723-8288



Wild Sage Bread

- 1 package dry yeast
- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon melted shortening
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 teaspoons crushed dried sage
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 1/2 cups flour

Combine sugar, sage, salt, baking soda and flour. Dissolve yeast in 1/4 cup warm water. Beat egg and cottage cheese together until smooth. Add melted shortening and yeast.

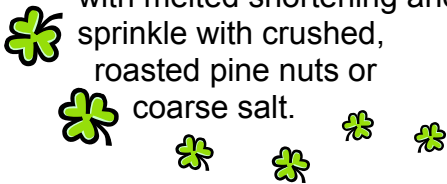
Add flour mixture slowly to egg mixture, beating well after each addition until a stiff dough is formed.

Cover dough with cloth and put in warm place until double in bulk (about 1 hour).

Punch dough down, knead for one minute and place in well-greased pan. Cover and let rise for 40 minutes.

Bake in a 350-degree oven for 50 minutes. Brush top with melted shortening and

sprinkle with crushed, roasted pine nuts or coarse salt.



To the world you might be one person  
but to one person you might be the world



FAMILY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The following information is from the new Family Services brochure.

The Family Services Department's purpose is to provide membership with services designed to assist in the development of self-sufficiency and the improvement of the quality of life while respecting the individual needs of members.

Our goals

To target demonstrated needs of Tribal Members to fill gaps on services provided by State and local agencies. To maintain the preservation of Native American families by providing direct service, referral and case management services to Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians members and their families.

Programs

The Family Services Department currently has three programs that focus on the well being of the families of the Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians.

Family Violence Prevention:

Works to provide access for local violence prevention counseling and education. Allowing for information and access of support services and legal advocacy. Limited financial assistance to accomplish service plan goals.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Verification of Tribal enrollment and documented need for services, participation in development of service plan and goals.

Individual and Family Self-Sufficiency Education & Assistance (practical services):

Provide assistance with Tribal and non-Tribal services, access, and referral. Provide advocacy for agency and private services through direct contact. Offer information and education on Federal, State, and local services. Deliver education and advocacy for services provided by the Tribe.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Verification of Tribal enrollment.

**Indian Child Welfare Intervention and Reunification:** Intervention in State court proceedings, as per the direction of the Binojeeuk Commission. Foster Care monitoring, adoption and case management services. Services plan development to accomplish specific goals.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Child under 18 years, who is a verified tribal member or is eligible for enrollment that is currently involved with Child Protective Services in either State or Tribal court case. Under the Indian Child Welfare Act Family services cannot advocate for individuals that have issues regarding divorce/child custody.

Little River Band Of Ottawa Indians  
Family Services Department  
310 Ninth Street Manistee, MI 49660  
Phone: 1-888-382-8299  
Fax: 231-398-0982



## Assessment of LRBOI Watershed Restoration Projects

The Tribe was recently awarded a Tribal Wildlife Grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to critically evaluate the effectiveness of rehabilitation efforts in the Manistee River Watershed. The grant will facilitate collaboration between LRBOI fish and stream biologist and researchers from Grand Valley State University. Together, we will examine stream bank stabilization projects as well as road-stream crossing improvements to determine the impact these restoration techniques have on sedimentation, macro invertebrates, and fish communities within the watershed. There will be numerous graduate students working under the supervision of Conservation Department staff to design and implement these projects.

The Tribal wildlife grant will complement the U.S. EPA national Watershed Initiative

Grant that the Tribe was awarded late last year. The Tribal wildlife grant will augment all research activities and further the monitoring effort necessary to determine if these restoration activities are cost-effective and beneficial practices. In the recent past there has been a substantial effort to improve the quality and integrity of freshwater systems. However, much of this effort has proceeded without the foresight to document relative successes and failures of these restoration projects. These projects will allow the LRBOI to make scientifically based management decisions that protect and enhance the water resources from a watershed approach.

For more information feel free to call:  
Stephanie Ogren  
Stream Ecologist  
231-723-1594 ext 21



## Ogema Sprague on Public Access TV

The Ogema was interviewed the day before Valentines Day for a public access television station in Traverse City.

Katie Trainer is producing a documentary to educate people on the grass roots efforts currently underway to stop the Northern Lights Tondou coal plant that the Manistee City Council is considering.

Ms. Trainer has produced educational films about social injustice issues surrounding the utility shut-offs in Detroit and documented the fight against the Nestle Company's bottled water company in Stanwich.

During the interview the Ogema highlighted thoughts from previous discussions he's been involved in and reaffirmed the fact that the coal plant project will have negative impact on many communities, not just Manistee.

The Ogema also pointed out that Governor Granholm has declared Manistee an attainment area. Two Michigan senators have voiced strong opposition and want to gain non-attainment status for Manistee, like surrounding counties. Mason and Benzie counties have EPA measuring stations, but Manistee county, which is between these two counties, does not have a measuring system in place. Placing a station in Manistee is an important step to securing a clean environment for all people and animals living on the Reservation.

Watch the Public Access channel in Traverse City or check the interview out when in broadcasts in the Cadillac area.

Non-attainment means  
"NO HAZARDOUS IMPACT  
TO OUR AIR!"

Ogema Lee Sprague

## What is a Firestarter?

In the beliefs of many Native American philosophies, every individual has a purpose and has been given the gifts, talents and abilities to accomplish this purpose.

"Firestarter" refers to an individual who has the ability to envision the needs and potential (fire or light) within a person or community. Such individuals come to identify their purpose through divine intervention or as a result of a life experience that is triggered by prolonged conflict.

During this time, the individual goes through an immediate self-appraisal which "sparks" or "brings light" to an understanding and knowledge within of what abilities they have or must acquire to accomplish their purpose.

For more information:  
[www.whitebison.org](http://www.whitebison.org)

Submitted by LRBOI Tribal Member  
Jackie Redwoman Lindow



## Get a Chance to Win Free Gas at MEIJERS

Every Tuesday from January 6 to May 25, 2004 the Little River Casino & Resort is giving guests a chance to win free gas from Meijer. Guests can pick up their game card every Tuesday from 4pm to 8pm at the Player's Club.

## Win Instantly

1/2 the game cards are instant winners!

## Win Big

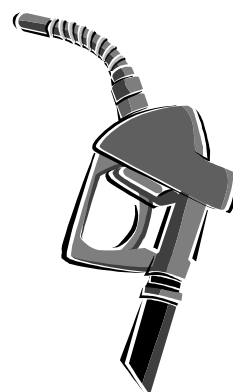
Spell the word M.E.I.J.E.R. and win free gas for a year!

## Win Again

Participants entered into weekly drawing for \$100 gift cards!

Guests can get more details and pick up their game pieces at the Player's Club. They must be Player's Club members to participate. Sorry, employees of Little River and their families can not participate.

## Tuesday's All About Winning Gas at the Little River Casino & Resort



*He has the right to criticize  
who has the heart to help.*

Abraham Lincoln



## The Importance of Homeowner and Renter Insurance

### Homeowners

In the event of a disaster do you have home owners insurance? It is a reassuring feeling that you are protected. You put a lot of time and money into your home and it is a huge investment. So why wouldn't you want to protect your investment? Home insurance is one way to protect your investment and could be one of the most inexpensive costs associated with owning a home. Home insurance can protect you from damages to the structure of your home, outbuildings such as a garage or storage shed, your personal belongings or even from financial liability if someone outside of your household is injured and you as the homeowner are found responsible. Taking the time now to understand home insurance and the importance of protecting yourself will help you fend off the potential financial misfortune of a lawsuit or having to replace your home and belongings at your cost. A basic home policy covers perils, such as lightning, theft, fire, smoke, and wind. One thing to remember with this type of policy; any risk that is not mentioned specifically in your policy is not covered. At a minimum you should have a basic home insurance policy. This policy is made-to-order for young families who own small homes and for older folks who live on limited or fixed incomes. This insurance will also cover extra living expenses while home is untenable after disaster, such as living in motels until home is livable again.

### Renters

Do you have renters insurance? Most renters don't think about getting some type of insurance to cover personal property such as clothes, furniture, TV, etc. Renters insurance will protect your property from theft, fire, and other perils. One common myth is that your landlord's insurance protects you. This is false. Your landlord's insurance only covers the dwelling and does not cover your personal property. Another myth is that you don't own that much stuff and that it isn't worth buying insurance. This is also false. Your possessions are worth more than you expect. You may think your personal belongings aren't worth much but the average person has over \$20,000 worth of personal belongings. That's personal belonging that's not covered by a landlord's insurance policy. Most renters insurance policies are similar to policies you would have if you owned your home. Your renters policy will cover personal property for the cost of the policy deductible. In the event of a disaster such as a fire, flood or theft, your landlord isn't looking out for you and your property. Whatever the cost of a renters insurance policy it is minimal compared to the cost for replacing your personal property out of your own pocket.

So it is important to take the time to sit down with an insurance representative to go over an insurance policy that will ensure you have the proper coverage.

*Submitted by: Lee A. Iverson  
Members Assistance Department*

## Anyone can be a Stalker. Anyone Can Be a Victim of Stalking

Stalking is a criminal offense. It involves repeated or continuing harassment of another individual. It is an offense that will leave a person feeling terrorized, frightened, intimidated, threatened, harassed, or molested.

Stalking involves an action that happens two or more times. This often happens when relationships break up or when there is an intimidating, threatening relationship. It can also take place between co-workers or even a person unknown to the victim.

When contact is made by an individual without the consent of the individual or against a person who expressed desire that contact be avoided or discontinued, it is considered stalking. Un-consented contact can include;

- Following or appearing within the victim's sight.
- Approaching or confronting the victim in a public place or on private property.
- Appearing at the victim's workplace or residence
- Entering onto or remaining on property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim.
- Contacting the victim by phone, mail, or electronic (computer) communications. Placing an object on, or delivering an object to, property owned, leased, or occupied by the victim.

### What You Can Do.

It is very important that the other person has been told that their advances or interest is unwanted and that you want no further contact from them.

If you think it would be safe, communicate to the stalker that you do not want any contact with him or her. Putting your wishes in writing and mailing it, (keep a copy for yourself – send with a receipt of delivery request,) will eliminate the need for face-to-face contact.

Report to you local law enforcement agency that you are being stalked, whether or not you plan to file formal charges.

Build your case against the stalker by providing the police with any or all of the following:

- Name and address of the stalker, if possible.
- Document (personal journal or diary) of the stalkers activities.
- Taped recording(s) of threatening or harassing telephone calls.
- Videotape of stalkers action.
- Basic identifying information (i.e. license plate number, make of car, personal appearance).
- List of contacts with the stalker (i.e. general time frame, place, what was said, letters received).

### Your Rights.

Exercise your legal rights:

- Notify the police in the areas where the stalking took place.
- Get an Anti-Stalking restraining order from your local circuit court or Tribal Court. This order states that the stalker is to have no contact with the victim; if violated, criminal penalties will follow. This will not only protect you, but also assist the law enforcement agency in enforcing the anti-stalking law. It also increases the penalties should the stalker violate the restraining order.
- You may also bring civil action against the stalker. This allows you to sue him or her for any damage that may have caused emotional harm, and may entitle you to exemplary damages and legal fees as well.
- It is also important to have support from your friends and family during this emotionally distressing time.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Ramsey  
STOP Violence Planning Coordinator*



## Doctors Express Concerns

continued from page 1

-munity in the suffering of the people who will be afflicted from changes to their environment cannot be calculated and the risks to children and future generations is tremendous.

Both doctors who wrote separate letters to the Commission requested that an independent study and health assessments be made by state and federal governments. Local governments have also requested independent economic and environmental impact studies. The County of Manistee, Pleasanton, Bear Lake and Onkema townships, and Bear Lake village have written letters expressing concern. At this time several groups opposed to coal plant development have banded together to fight against this project. The list continues to grow and includes the Manistee Citizens for Responsible Development, American Lung Association of Michigan, the Traverse City Sierra Club, Asthma Coalition of Northern Michigan, Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council, and the Manistee Conservation District among others.

Because there were so many people at the last public meeting and all didn't have an opportunity to speak, the City Planning Commission is preparing for another meeting with the public on February 26, 2004. If you attended the meeting and heard someone ask the Commission these questions, what do you think the answers would be?

- Is building a coal plant worth losing millions of dollars (annually) in tourism-based income for the business owners in Manistee?
- Is it worth jeopardizing the health of hundreds of people this year in Manistee AND surrounding communities? What about next year, how about 10 years from now, or even 100 years?
- How would I explain my decision to support building the coal plant to the person who's child is sick from breathing toxic dust?
- If my own local doctor is opposed to having a coal plant in our town why would I approve one being built in my neighbors back yard?

Will the Commission's answer simply be a few jobs?

Many people are sharing their thoughts with government officials and have contacted the Environmental Protection Agency to express their views. They've written to Senators, called their congressmen and gathered together to speak as one voice, just as the doctors have. As this topic continues to boil let all people consider one of the most important statements made in the letter from the group of doctors, "*Tondu's estimate of the creation of jobs seems an insufficient reciprocation for the risks we are being asked to bear.*"

In a nutshell here's what Tondu wants from the Manistee Planning Commission: To jeopardize the health of our kids, the welfare of the animals we care for, the value of the land we live on, the water we drink, the air we breath, and the food we grow to eat. He also wants to risk our emergency access to the hospital, build an ugly coal stack for our view and drop black dust on all our favorite things. All the Planning Commission has to do is approve his Special Land Use Permit so Tondu can sell our power to someone else!

That sure doesn't sound like what the doctor would order.

By M. Zelenak

## Press Release: Anishinaabemowin CD-ROM

Manistee Michigan, 2/26/04

New CD-ROM Aimed at Preserving and Sharing Anishinaabemowin

Native American language expert and teacher Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant recently released an interactive CD-ROM aimed at preserving and sharing the language of the Anishinaabe nation, Anishinaabemowin. The user-friendly program, which offers beginning, intermediate, advanced and conversational levels of instruction, is appropriate for all age levels.

Anishinaabemowin, the language of the Anishinaabe nation, is one of the oldest and most historically important Native American languages in North America, but is in danger of becoming extinct if it is not taught to a new generation. In earlier times, the language was passed on orally from a tribe's elders to its younger members, but in more recent times, this practice has fallen victim to outside influences.

Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant grew up on the Wikwemikong Reservation in South Bay, Ontario, Canada speaking Anishinaabemowin. As an adult, Kenny's love of his native language has only intensified, and he has devoted his life to teaching it to others from the elementary to the college level. A few years ago, he applied for and received a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) to fund equipment and programs that would allow him to share his expertise with a greater number of people. Among other things, that grant made it possible for him to produce this new, interactive Anishinaabe language CD-ROM.

A host of other talented people were also involved in the project, among them well-known Native American flutist and composer Charlie Wayne Watson, whose hauntingly beautiful music underscores the visual elements of the CD-ROM; artist Zoey Wood-Salomon, whose traditional woodland style painting graces both the CD-ROM cover and elements of the program itself; Robert Hughes, an animator with credits that include work with Nickelodeon and Fox TV, who used special animation techniques to enhance the learning program; and Jim Sundberg of the award-winning multimedia firm JS Interactive, who was in charge of design, programming and photography.

The CD-ROM, titled simply "Anishinaabemowin," is priced at \$39 US / \$50 CAN. Combining colorful graphics, videos, music and games, all wrapped up in a user-friendly navigation package, it offers a lively way for people of any age to learn more about the language, history and culture of the Anishinaabe nation. Language instruction is included for beginning, intermediate, advanced and conversational levels. For more information or to order copies of the "Anishinaabemowin" CD-ROM, please call (231) 933-4406 or (231) 398-9378, or e-mail Pheasant9@aol.com. You can also get more information about our language online at [www.Anishinaabemowin.org](http://www.Anishinaabemowin.org).

## Congratulations & Kchi'miigwech!

The Director of Tribal Health Services would like to extend congratulations and express sincere gratitude for the dedication of ALL OF THE HEALTH SERVICE STAFF, who are directly responsible for the competent administration of our programs and services, as evidenced by assessment and audit evaluations.

Russ Vizina, Consultant, Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc., conducted an assessment on January 15 & 16, using criteria from the IHS Site Review Manual and the Handbook for Accreditation for Ambulatory Health Care (AAHC) and stated the following in summary, "The Health Program of the Little River Band has a solid administrative and program structure in place. Based on this assessment, this consultant believes that the Health Program is ready for pre-survey for CARF and AAHC accreditation."



## A Passion for Politics

Most people didn't vote for Timothy Bearheart in September's primary election in Duluth, MN. He was a 21-year-old Lake Superior College student running in an eight-way race for a seat on the City Council. He was up against well-known incumbents. And he didn't even have a driver's license. So it was no surprise Bearheart placed second-to-last. Still, he captured 2,100 votes and the eye of Herb Bergson who was

running for mayor. After Bergson won, he asked Bearheart to lead his transition office. "I was immediately impressed with Tim's kind personality and tenacity," Bergson said. "He is a gentle giant of a young man I nicknamed 'Bigheart.' He's also a champion for the less fortunate, a cause I find very attractive in him." Bearheart, a 6-foot-2, 310-pound American Indian, was given the birth name of "Nahgahwahdun," which means leader. His persistence is commendable. He ran for several stu-

dent offices in junior high and high school, losing more than he won. But he always returned with a bigger smile on his face. The Duluth primary loss reminded him of that. "Decisions are made by those who show up, and by those who decide that they won't quit until they've made a difference," Bearheart said Wednesday. "I want to be one of those people."

<http://www.duluthsuperior.com/mld/duluthsuperior/news/7819616.htm>

## Early college program helps American Indian students prepare for university life

A 2002 study of American Indian high school seniors in Washington showed a 52% dropout rate. Many believe that estimate is too low. "I think the number is much more realistically 70%," said Linda Campbell from Seattle's Antioch University. To help Indian students further their education, an early college program at Medicine Wheel Academy provides a culturally-grounded alternative for Indian students from area high schools. Instead of bringing students to an unfamiliar college setting, the program allows them to remain in high school classrooms while picking up college credits. During the 10-week course, students earn five college credits through Spokane Falls Community College. The course prepares students for college by teaching them reading, research and higher-level thinking skills. "It's got the potential to be such a great thing for Native students," said Pam Austin, coordinator of Indian Education Programs for Spokane. "Most of our Native students don't see themselves as college students. They don't have role models. Their parents weren't in college, or their grandparents." Spokane's early college program was the first to begin in the state. The second program is at Ferndale High School near the Lummi Indian nation. Next year, Wellpinit School on the Spokane Indian reservation will launch an early college program.

[http://www.spokesmanreview.com/news-story.asp?date=012904&ID=s1479740&cat=section.tribal\\_news](http://www.spokesmanreview.com/news-story.asp?date=012904&ID=s1479740&cat=section.tribal_news)



Check out the latest issue of  
Currents on-line at  
**WWW.LRBOI.COM**

**LRBOI JOB HOTLINE**  
**1-866-556-5660**

## Michigan BIA school serves as example

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting School, is an elementary school with 270 students located on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Bahweting is a model for other Bureau of Indian Education schools --a place where children not only get lessons in Indian culture, but play in an orchestra on the tribal radio station and conduct science experiments using school-issued Palm Pilots. Bahweting has smaller classes, a tougher curriculum and better test scores than the local public school. It outperforms other schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and is the only BIA school to earn the Blue Ribbon School award from the U. S. Department of Education. Bahweting, which also has charter school status under Michigan law, receives nearly \$4,000 of BIA funds for each tribal child. They also receive about \$6,700 in state money for each student. In addition, Bahweting uses grant and other federal dollars. Records show Bahweting spent \$14,803 per student, about twice as much as the public schools in Michigan in 2002.

<http://www.argusleader.com/news/Mondayarticle1.shtml>

## Tribes' help needed for power line project

LAC DU FLAMBEAU, Wis. - The Minnesota Power Company (MP), Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPSC), and the American Transmission Company (ATC) have received approval from the Public Service Commission to construct a 345 Kilovolt (kV) power line that would run from the MP Arrowhead Substation near Duluth, Minn. to the WPSC Weston Substation near Wausau, Wis.

However, tribes within the State of Wisconsin that are affected by the route have not approved the project until it is determined that the route will not affect any historic sites or properties in its path.

Tribal Historic Preservation officials in St. Croix, Lac Courte Oreilles, and Lac du Flambeau are requesting information relevant to traditional cultural areas or artifacts in the path of, or within a half mile on either side of the proposed Arrowhead-Weston Power Line route. The path dissects the Ceded Territory.

The project will require clearing of vegetation within a right-of-way 120 feet wide and 210 miles in length. Steel pole structures will be installed every 750 feet along this route. More than 75 percent of the route is sited on existing railroad, oil pipeline, and electric transmission line corridors. Construction of the new line is slated to begin in Minnesota

this spring, and Wisconsin by fall.

The route crosses a small portion of the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation, on the west side near Summit Lake Road.

The route also traverses upland areas near wetlands where there is the possibility of past habitation and therefore the potential presence of artifacts, cemeteries, and mounds, and areas of traditional cultural significance such as ricing beds, medicinal plant gathering areas, birch bark gathering areas, sugaring areas and villages.

Information supplied will be held in confidence. Should any discoveries be made, tribes will meet to discuss further guidelines to ensure protection of these artifacts or areas before the project begins.

Persons with any information pertaining to this project are asked to contact Tribal Historic Preservation offices as soon as possible: St. Croix - Wanda McFaggen, (715) 349-2195 or [thpo@stcroixtribalcenter.com](mailto:thpo@stcroixtribalcenter.com), Lac du Flambeau - Kelly Jackson, (715) 588-2139 or [ldfthpo@nnex.net](mailto:ldfthpo@nnex.net), Lac Courte Oreilles - Jerry Smith, (715) 634-0092.

Posted: February 11, 2004 - 9:51am EST  
by: Abbey Thompson / Correspondent / Indian Country Today



Anishinaabe Language Hotline  
1-877-789-0993

Man, woman, child (life stages)	Press 1
More weather terms	Press 2
More household terms	Press 3
More foods & liquids	Press 4
Time	Press 5
Body parts	Press 6
Clothing	Press 7
My family members	Press 8
Your family members	Press 9
His/her family members	Press 10
Numbers (10—90)	Press 11
Commands	Press 12
To leave info for language CD Rom	Press 13

COMMANDS

	Giin:You (S)	Giinwa: You (P)	Giinwe: Lets
Eat	Wiisinin	Wiisinik	Wiisineda
Come & eat	Biwiisinin	Biwiisinik	
Go & eat	Owiisinin	Owiisinik	Owiisineda
Come in	Bibiindigen	Bibiindigek	
Go in	Obiindigen	Obiindigek	Obiindigeda
Hurry	Wewiiptaan	Wewiiptaak	Wewiiptaada
Get ready	Zhiitaan	Zhiitaak	Zhiitaada



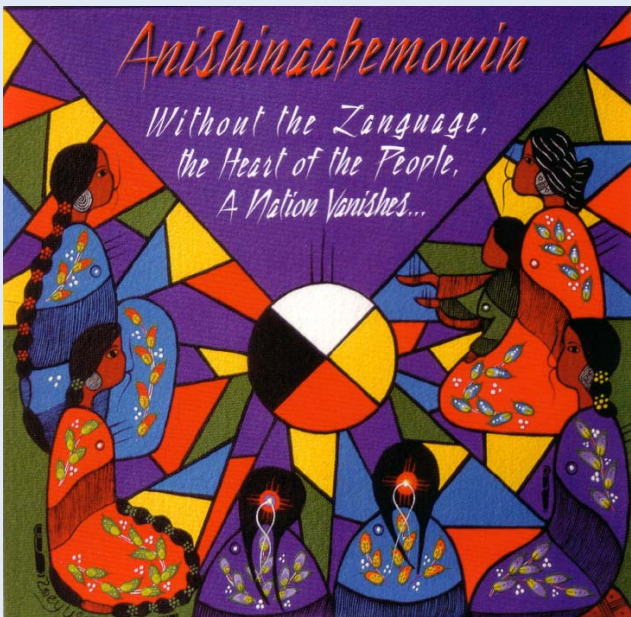
Match the words

Giizookpo	Drum
Dopwin	It snowed
Ademin	Fish
Aki	Tobacco
Sema	Feather
Miigwan	Heart berry
Adewegan	Earth
Giigonh	Table

Answers in the next issue!

Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant      www.anishinaabemowin.org  
Pheasant9@aol.com      231-933-4406      231-392-6421

Purchase the new Anishinaabemowin  
Language CD-ROM for just \$39!\*



This wonderful  
program made for all  
ages includes:

- Over 800 words and phrases
- Video Clips
- Games
- Hundreds of photos
- Historical Facts
- Cultural Information

And More!

The CD-ROM features 26 chapters of Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced and Conversational phrases and words. It also includes great music and fun games to help you learn and remember this ancient language. Reduced price of \$39 includes shipping and handling. Your payment by check or money order made payable to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians must be received before CD-ROM is mailed to your address. For more information call 1-877-789-0993 and press #13.

**\*EACH LRBOI HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD MAY RECEIVE ONE FREE COPY OF THE CD-ROM. PLEASE CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION.,**



Eastern  
White Pine

Eastern white pine trees are a virtual storehouse of medicine.

The **inner bark** can be used to treat wounds and insect bites. It can be applied as a bandage -- tied in place

with string and kept moist -- or placed directly on the wound after being ground up and soaked in liquor.

The **bark** can also be turned into cough syrup. The bark needs to be steeped in a jar of hot water, and brandy and honey are usually added for flavor and to preserve it.

The native people of North America used the **needles** of the eastern white pine tree to make tea. They chopped the needles up and let them sit in water. This made a tasty tea rich in vitamin C.

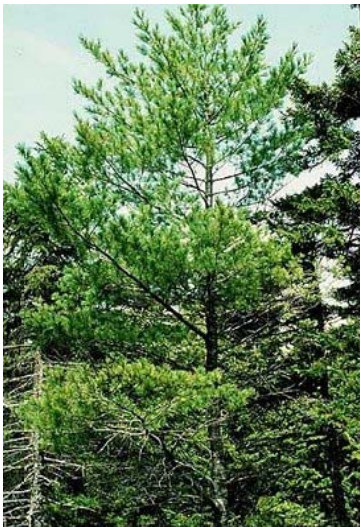
**Caution:** Even though we've described a few ways in which the eastern white pine can be used, we don't recommend that you go out and try any of these by yourself. As with all wild plants, it's best if you have a plant specialist with you, to help you learn to identify plants and to make sure you don't use the wrong plant by mistake. This is especially true of pine needles. The needles of the *western pine* have been reported to cause poisoning in cattle. (Western pines include ponderosa pine and loblolly pine.) Other types of pine trees contain large amounts of turpentine substances.

Young Eastern White Pine are eaten by White-tailed Deer and Eastern Cottontails. Eastern Cottontails also eat the bark from larger trees, as do Beaver. Squirrels, Eastern Chipmunks, voles, and mice eat pine needles, as well as seeds.

Many birds eat Eastern White Pine seeds, including Black-capped Chickadee, Pine Warbler, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and White-breasted Nuthatch. Many species of birds also nest in Eastern White Pine. They are a favorite nest site of American Bald Eagles.

Cavity dwellers, such as woodpeckers, squirrels, and Black-capped Chickadees live in holes of Eastern White Pine.

**This tree  
can live over  
500 years!**







## Science experiment for cold winter days: ICE BUBBLES!

Outside temperature should be below 0 degrees. Swing the bubble wand around to allow the movement to create the bubbles. Filling the bubbles with your breath will make it harder to have them freeze (hot breath). The bubbles should freeze before they hit the ground. Let them sit for a few minutes and you should be able to pick them up with your hands. It's kind of a neat way to show kids the process of freezing.

Submitted by: Angie L Turner, Administrative Assistant, LRBOI Family Services Department

P.S. Make it really cool and add a little bit of food coloring to the bubble mix!—MZ

**What happens when  
you have:**

- 1) nothing to do
- 2) a sharp knife
- 3) a large lime
- 4) a patient cat
- 5) and it's football season?

**ANSWER:**



*Hey Kids, Send in your funny jokes, cool artwork,  
or even stories and poems and you might see it in the  
next issue of Currents! See page 2 for submission details.*

*..... everything on the earth  
has a purpose, every disease  
an herb to cure it, and every  
person a mission.  
This is the Indian theory of  
existence.*

*Mourning Dove Salish 1888-1936*

**Color the  
picture and help  
the lady find the  
rabbit!**



Ask your parents  
to photo copy this

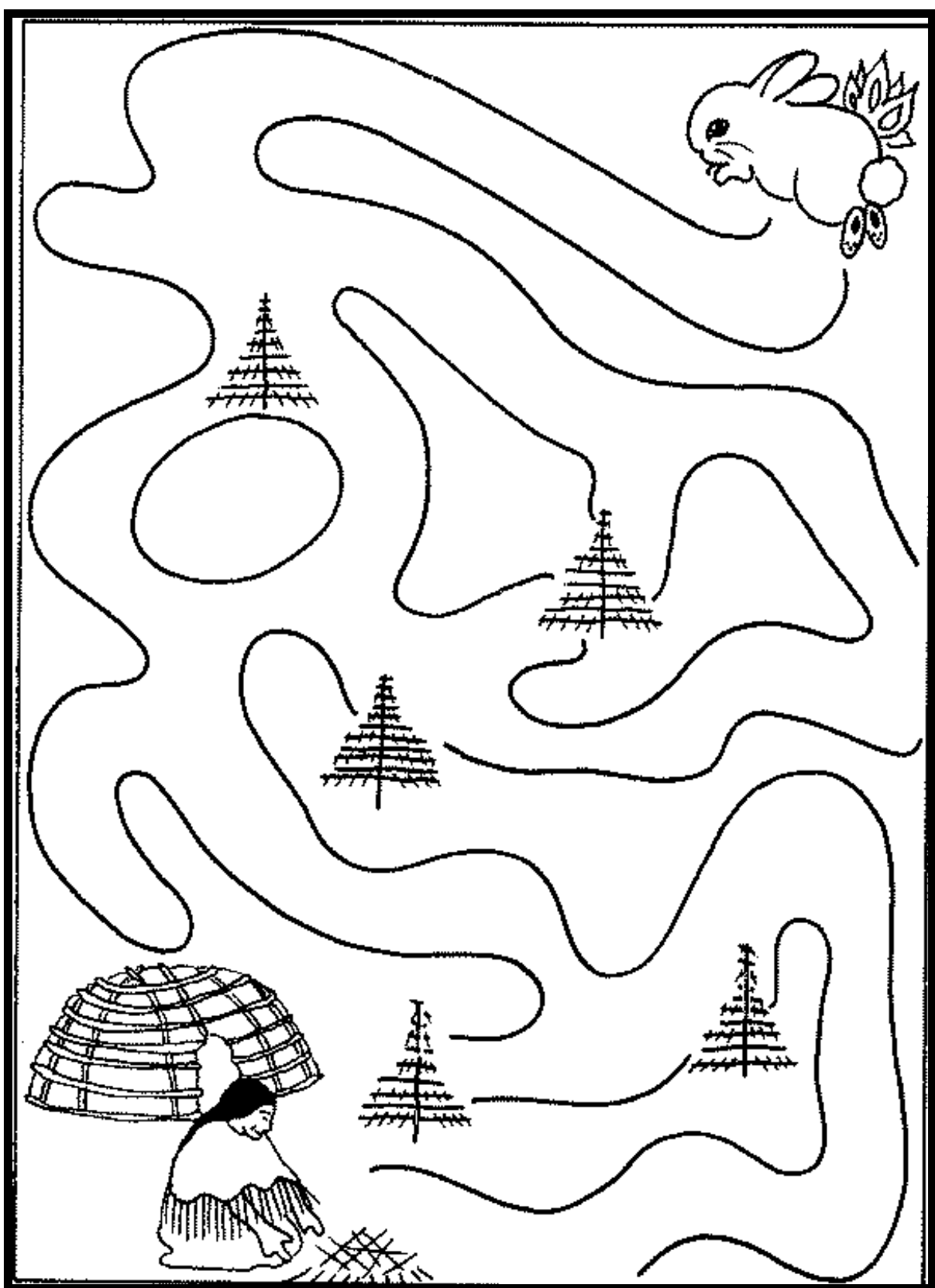
picture or cut it out to enter a drawing to win a box of 64 crayons. Contest is open to Tribal members and descendants from birth-10 years old. All entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2004. One entry allowed per child. Ten winners will be drawn from the entries received and announced in the April newspaper and at the 2004 Spring Membership meeting. Mail your entry and the following information to:

**Currents March  
Coloring Contest**

Little River Band of  
Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, Michigan 49660

1. Child's Name
2. Child's Age
3. Tribal I.D. or Parent/Guardian Tribal I.D.
4. Return Mailing Address

*Megwetch &  
Good Luck Kids!*



90-Day Calendar & Contact Information

SPECIAL EVENTS:



Basket Making

March 13, 20, & 27th, 9a-4p

Learn how to make black ash baskets at the LRBOI Community Center. Class size is limited to about 10 people so call early. Call the Cultural Preservation Committee to confirm the dates and times or to get more information.

"No One of Us is as Smart as All of Us"

April 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	2	3 WS 10a EL 12p
4	5 EN 5:30p	6 AL 12:20p	7 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	8 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p HO 5:15p	9	10
11	12 BI 10:00a	13 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	14 TC 10:00a	15 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	16	17 TC 10:00a Land Use 3pm Spring Member- ship Meeting
18	19 EN 5:30p	20 AL 12:20p TC 1:30p	21 TC 10:00a	22 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	23	24
25	26	27 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	28 TC 10:00a	29 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	30	

March 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 AL 12:20p	3 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	4 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	5	6 WS 10a EL 12p
7	8 EN 5:30p	9 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	10 TC 10:00a	11 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p HO 5:15p	12	13
14	15 BI 10:00a	16 AL 12:20p TC 1:20p	17 TC 10:00a	18 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	19	20 TC 10:00a Land Use 3:00pm
21	22 EN 5:30p	23 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	24 TC 10:00a	25 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	26	27
28 Treaty Recognition Day	29 TRIBAL OFFICES CLOSED for Treaty Recognition Day	30 AL 12:20p	31 TC 10:00a			

May 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 WS 10a EL 12p
2	3 EN 5:30p	4 AL 12:20p	5 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	6 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	7	8
9	10 BI 10:00a	11 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	12 TC 10:00a	13 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p HO 5:15p	14	15 TC 10:00a
16	17 EN 5:30p	18 AL 12:20p TC 1:30p	19 TC 10:00a	20 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	21	22
23	24	25 AL 12:20p CP 5:30p	26 TC 10:00a	27 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	28	29
30	31					

Meeting Schedule & Calendar Abbreviations

Please note that meeting information is subject to change without prior notification. You should always call ahead to verify meeting schedules and agendas if you plan to attend. Calendar meeting abbreviations shown below.

<b>AL</b>	<b>Anishinaabemowin Language Class</b> Every Tuesday 12:20 pm - 1:20 pm LRBOI Community Center Every Thursday 12:20 pm - 1:20 pm Little Conference Room, Casino <i>Every Tuesday 5:30pm-Advanced Language Class @ Training Ctr.</i>
<b>EN</b>	<b>Enrollment Commission Meeting:</b> LRBOI Administrative Building Every first and third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm
<b>CP</b>	<b>Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting:</b> Bank Building, Dome Room 3rd Floor Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:15 pm
<b>ED</b>	<b>Education Committee Meeting:</b> LRBOI Administrative Building Every 2nd Thursday at 5:30 pm

<b>EL</b>	<b>Elders Meeting:</b> LRBOI Community Center First Saturday of the month 12:00 pm
<b>NR</b>	<b>Natural Resources Commission Meeting:</b> East Lake Office First Wednesday at 6:00 pm
<b>TC</b>	<b>Tribal Council Meeting:</b> Bank Building, Dome Room 3rd Floor Every Wednesday at 10:00 am, every third Saturday - 10:00 am in the Bank Building Dome Room, and every third Tuesday (minutes review) at 1:30pm in the Tribal Council Conference Room
<b>WS</b>	<b>Warrior Society Meeting:</b> LRBOI Community Center First Saturday of the month 10:00am
<b>HO</b>	<b>Housing Commission Meeting:</b> LRBOI Administrative Building Every Thursday 5:15pm
<b>GA</b>	<b>Gaming Commission:</b> Call for dates & directions Every other Saturday 9:00am
<b>BI</b>	<b>Binojeeuk Commission Meeting:</b> Bank Building, Tribal Council Conference Room, every second Monday 10:00am

DIRECT CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Ogema's Office	1-231-398-6823
Tribal Council	1-231-398-6845
• Elaine Porter	1-231-398-6833
• Pat Ruiter	1-231-398-6831
• Pamela Medahko	1-231-398-6849
• Steve Parsons	1-231-398-6830
• Brian Medacco	1-231-398-6828
• Janine Sam	1-231-398-6834
• Tammy Kleeman	1-231-398-6835
• Israel Stone	1-231-398-6807
• Lisa McCatty	1-231-398-6719
Health Clinic	1-231-723-8299
Toll-Free	1-888-382-8299
Job Hotline	1-866-556-5660
Language Hotline	1-877-789-0993
Tribal Court	1-231-398-3406

LRBOI TOLL-FREE 1-888-723-8288

Training & Development	1-231-398-9372
Wastewater & Utilities	1-231-723-2309
Warrior's Society	1-231-398-6720
Bedabin Receptionist	1-231-398-6604
Elder's Coordinator	1-231-398-6709
Enrollment Officer	1-231-398-6712
Commodities Department	1-231-398-6715
Currents News	1-231-398-6872
Natural Resources	1-231-723-1594
Little River Casino	1-231-398-6833
Toll-Free	1-888-568-2244
Maintenance Department	1-231-723-7733
Housing Department	1-231-398-6734
Member's Assistance	1-231-398-6864
Public Safety, Administrative	1-231-398-3413
Public Safety, Non-Emergency	
Tribal Officer Response	1-231-723-6241

ADDRESSES

Administration Building 1762 US 31 South Manistee, MI 49660 <i>Just South of K-Mart Plaza</i>	Natural Resources 159 Brickyard Road Manistee, MI 49660 <i>Big Blue off M-55</i>
Health Clinic 310 9th Street Manistee, MI 49660 <i>Above Child Care Center</i>	Tribal Court 3031 Domres Road Manistee, MI 49660 <i>In Newland Bldg</i>
Little River Casino & Resort 2700 Orchard Highway Manistee, MI 49660 <i>Corner of M-22 &amp; US-31</i>	Government Offices 375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660 <i>In National Bank Bldg</i>
Community Center 1762 US 31 South Manistee, MI 49660 <i>Just South of K-Mart Plaza</i>	Public Safety 3031 Domres Road Manistee, MI 49660 <i>In Newland Bldg</i>



# NOTICE OF ELECTION

March 1, 2004

## LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS

At the request of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians' Tribal Council the Midwest Regional Director has authorized a Secretarial Election to permit the qualified voters of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians to adopt or reject proposed amendments to the Tribal Constitution.

### THE SECRETARIAL ELECTION DATE IS: APRIL 26, 2004

The election will be conducted in accordance with the regulations set forth in Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 81 (25 CFR s. 81).

Adult members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians who are 18 years or older on April 26, 2004, **and who register to vote**, may vote in the election.

**Voter registration packets are being mailed on March 1, 2004.** Any adult tribal member who does not receive a voter registration packet in the mail, should request one from the Chairman of the Election Board. **The voter registration form must be completed and returned to the Election Board Chairman by March 22, 2004.** It should be returned in the envelope provided in the Voter Registration Packet. If necessary, the registration form can be telefaxed or hand delivered to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan Field Office, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, by **4:30pm, Eastern Standard Time on March 22**. The address and telefax number are given below. Registration forms received after March 22 will not be accepted.

All voting in this election will be done by mail, there will be no polling place.

A copy of the proposed amendments are available for review in all tribal offices and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan Field Office, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. They will also be mailed with each voter registration packet.

The ballots will be counted April 26, 2004 at the Tribal Bank Building, 375 River Street, Manistee, Michigan. Immediately after the ballots are counted the election results will be posted in all tribal offices and at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan Field Office, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

The Election Board appointed to conduct the election is composed of the following people:

Gerald F. Parish, Election Board Chairman  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan Field Office  
2901.5 I-75 Business Spur  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906)632-6809 extension 3114  
Fax (906) 632-0689  
Toll Free: 877-659-5028 ext. 3114

Members:	Susan Schultz	John Ross
	David Lilleberg	Kathleen Bowen

The members can be reached at: 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660  
(231) 398-6852

**EVEN IF YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE IN TRIBAL ELECTIONS, YOU MUST REGISTER TO VOTE WITH THE SECRETARIAL ELECTION BOARD.**

## NOTICE TO MEMBERSHIP 3x Rule

To avoid newspapers and other mailing items being returned to the Tribe, the Ogema has authorized the use of a "3X" (three times) rule. If your newspaper or other mail is sent back to the Tribal offices three times you will be removed from the mailing list. Although your address will remain in the data base (for verification purposes) you will not receive any mailings until you send in an updated address form and it is received by the Enrollment office. If you have had problems or someone you know is not receiving their mail please get in touch with Kimberly Alexander, Enrollment Officer at 888.723.8288 to obtain the proper change of address form. Also, if you receive more than one newspaper, please notify the Currents office. *Megwetch.*



## ATTENTION TRIBAL VETERANS

In order for you to be eligible for the Veterans Memorial I need a copy of your 214's or discharge papers. Work for the Memorial will be starting this Spring and this is the last call to turn your paperwork in and get on the Memorial with your fellow Veterans.

Warrior Society meetings are the first Saturday of the month at 10:00am. Our office is in the LRBOI Administration Building on US-31. Entry is on the north side of the building.

We will be planning the Veterans Memorial at future meetings and discussing other important issues. Also for those of you who have already sent your discharge copies (or are going to) please send me your hat size for your Red Beret.



Please join us at the meetings, we need your input.

*Al Medacco*

# 2004 Spring Membership Meeting

## Saturday April 17, 2004

Registration: 9:00am  
Information Booths: 10:00am  
Potluck Luncheon: 12:00pm  
Meeting Begins: 1:00pm

This is a Potluck Luncheon, meat and non-alcoholic beverages are provided by the Tribe. Please remember to bring your favorite dish to share with others.

*Megwetch and see you there!*

**ATTENTION VENDORS:** There will be a limited amount of space for vendors available at the meeting. Five foot by eighteen inch tables will be set up for the first seven to ten vendors who call to reserve a table. No racks or other display items are allowed, all displays must be contained to the table space.

***Please call Melissa Zelenak at 231-398-6872 to reserve your table by March 31, 2004.***

**STOP  
Violence  
Against Indian  
Women  
Resources  
Help Line  
1-800-6228**

Kent County  
Safe Haven Ministries  
Crisis (616) 452-6664

Lake, Mason, and  
Oceana Counties  
Region Four  
Community Services  
Crisis (800) 950-5808

Manistee County  
CHOICES  
Crisis (231) 723-0082

Muskegon County  
Every Women's Place  
Crisis (231) 0082

Newaygo  
County WISE  
Crisis (231) 796-6600  
Or (800) 374-9473

Ottawa County  
Center for Women  
in Transition  
Crisis (616) 392-1970  
Or (800) 848-5991

Wexford County  
OASIS/Family  
Resource Ctr.  
Crisis (231) 775-7233

Most agencies have support groups. Call for the days and times.

## "Tribal Citizen Input for the Land Use Plan"

**Where:** 375 River Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor in the Dome Room, Manistee, MI 49660  
**Time:** Anticipated start time will be 3:00pm.  
**When:** After Tribal Councils monthly Saturday meetings.

**Your input for the Tribal Land Use plan is important.  
This document will go to Tribal Council for approval of adoption.**

**March 20th 2004-Public Meeting #3-**Will include the review of the alternative concept plans by Tribal members and the determination of which ideas are either liked or disliked.

**April 17th 2004-Public Meeting #4-**Final presentation of the Land Use plan will be held at the *Little River Casino, Three Fires Conference Center* located at **2700 Orchard Highway, Manistee, Michigan.**

If you have questions of concern please contact the Planning Department. Dan Shepard, *Strategic Planning Coordinator/Director* or Monica Cabot, *Planning Secretary/Receptionist*

*Refreshments will be provided*

## Land Use Survey Memo

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Planning Department is currently in the process of sending out a Land Use Survey in order to create the Tribe's Land Use Plan. The deadline for the survey will be 10 days after you receive it. Here are the prizes for turning in the Survey by the requested deadline.

**1st place \$100**

**2nd place \$75**

**3rd place \$50**

If you have questions or require additional information please call Dan Shepard, Strategic Planning Director/Coordinator, at 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6810 or email: dshepard@lrboi.com. *Megwetch*

**THE LRBOI HOUSING & GAMING COMMISSIONS CURRENTLY HAS OPENINGS.**  
**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE HOUSING COMMISSION OR ANY OTHER LRBOI COMMISSION, COMMITTEE OR BOARD, PLEASE MAIL A LETTER OF INTEREST TO:**  
**OFFICE OF THE OGEMA  
375 RIVER STREET  
MANISTEE, MI 49660.**  
***Commission, Committee and Board seats are volunteer positions that may receive stipends for meeting attendance.***







## March 2004 Calendar of Events

Call 1-888-568-2244 for  
more information or  
room reservations.

### Casino Calendar of Events

	Mar 2	"Free Gas for a Year"
	Mar 3	Club 55 Coin
	Mar 4	Big Wheel Thursdays
	Mar 6	Saturday Morning Madness
	Mar 7	Greenridge Realty Expo
	Mar 9	"Free Gas for a Year"
	Mar 10	Club 55 Coin
	Mar 11	Big Wheel Thursdays
	Mar 13	Saturday Morning Madness
	Mar 16	"Free Gas for a Year"
	Mar 18	Big Wheel Thursdays
	Mar 20	Saturday Morning Madness
	Mar 21	Casino Host Party Cabin Fever Event
	Mar 23	"Free Gas for a Year"
	Mar 24	Club 55 Coin
	Mar 25	Big Wheel Thursdays
	Mar 27	Saturday Morning Madness
	Mar 27	Bridal Show & Dinner
	Mar 28	2nd Annual Spring Bridal Show
	Mar 30	"Free Gas for a Year"
	Mar 31	Club 55 Coin

### Entertainment Calendar of Events

#### Weekend Entertainment at the Grove

March 5 & 6,	8pm-12am	Delicious, Funk/Dance
March 12 & 13,	8pm-12am	Root Doctor, R&B and Soul
March 19 & 20,	8pm-12am	Heaters, Motown, Blues & Soul
March 26 & 27,	8pm-12am	Classic Soul All-Stars, R&B and Soul



#### Polka Monday Noon-4:00pm

March 1	Andy Nester Orchestra
March 8	Ken Hawkins Polka Band
March 15	Virgil Baker's Just 4 Fun Band
March 22	Rodney Beyer & His Polka Pals
March 29	Watkoski Family Band

#### Two-Step Tuesday Noon-4:00pm

March 2	Andy Nester Orchestra
March 9	Ken Hawkins Polka Band
March 16	Virgil Baker's Just 4 Fun Band
March 23	Rodney Beyer & His Polka Pals
March 30	Watkoski Family Band



The Little River Casino & Resort is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- **General Manager**
- **Director of Gaming Operations**
- **Director of Food & Beverage**
- **Casino Controller**

To obtain Job Descriptions or to apply for these positions at the Little River Casino Resort, please call 888-568-2244 and ask to speak to a Recruiting Representative.

For up to date Job Postings, please visit our website at [www.littlerivercasinos.com](http://www.littlerivercasinos.com) and go to the employment section.

Also you can call toll free at 888-568-2244 or call the Job Hotline at 800-806-4348. Both are updated as the positions become available.

## In Touch

From Melissa Zelenak



### C'MON SPRING

Thank goodness most of the rotten weather is over (knock on wood) and we're closer to Spring than Winter! The Spring Membership meeting this year should be better than ever. Look for information booths from Tribal departments and the entry box for the children's "Name the 9 Chiefs" contest. Bring your camera to take lots of pictures and then send them to Currents for the *2004 Spring Membership Photo Gallery* in a future issue of the newspaper.

### MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Members, we're looking for your submissions, be it a drawing you've created, funny story you know, or grandmother's old photographs that you'd like to share. All submissions are returned if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope to return them in. Artwork that is sent in should be on letter or legal size paper so it can easily be scanned for publication.

### LITTLE RIVER LADIES LUNCHEON

Angie Turner gets kudos for the "Angie's Fluffy Stuff" dessert she brought to the last luncheon. Fresh blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, whipped cream and vanilla pudding, WOW! Thanks Ang (and bring more, Ha!) The theme for the March luncheon is "Chinese" and for April we'll be cooking, "Native American" so please join us at the Community Center on the first Monday of each month from 12:00pm-1:00pm. At the last luncheon we discussed the possibility of a camp out with the Ladies and their teen daughters. Stay tuned for more details and dates.

### ELDERS INTERVIEWS

In the next few month's we'll begin to feature "An Elder's Story" in each issue of Currents. There's no doubt that we have many Elders in the Tribe with remarkable stories, life experiences and craftsmanship skills to share. Sadly we have many Elders who have passed on that have wonderful stories too. I'd like to talk with family members who know an Elder who would like to share their stories of life in the paper. It's critical that the wisdom of our Elders be passed on to the young ones some how. Our Elders who follow the Seven Grandfather teachings have something to teach us at all times and hopefully by communicating with them and sharing their views in the newspaper we'll all benefit. I'll schedule interviews over the phone or in person in some cases.

### WARRIOR SOCIETY

The Warrior Society is gearing up for this year's activities. Please contact Al Medacco for more information on joining other Veterans for fellowship and tribal event participation. The LRBOI Veterans Memorial is an exciting project and Al wants to make sure our Veterans are honored by it.

### CLOSING THOUGHTS

***"You may have to fight a battle  
more than once to win it."***

- Margaret Thatcher



**Flat  
Stanley  
learns  
to  
drum!**

**Details  
next  
time!**



# Little River Currents

## Dedications & Announcements

Naabdin gíizis  
Snow Crust Moon  
March 2004 Vol. 1 / Issue 3

### Need a Babysitter?



Baby-sitting jobs wanted by responsible 14 year old tribal member in the Victory township/ West Shore Community college area (Mason county). Available to care for kids ages 1-10 on weekends and over the summer. Please call 845-7714 between 4-9pm on week days for more information.

### SOFTBALL ANYONE?

We're making a list of people who are interesting in playing on a co-ed softball team. If you're connected with the tribe somehow and you're interested in playing ball, let me know. *Melissa Zelenak, melissa111165@yahoo.com.*

*Megwetch!*



### Happy First Birthday

Marcus Steel  
One Year Old on  
March 1st  
*From Aunt Cindy*

### Happy Birthday

George Allen  
March 24th  
*Love, Sister Sarah & Family*



### St. Patrick's Day

Happy Birthday  
John Paul Shepard  
*From Guess Who!*

### Geronimo, Happy Birthday

*Love, Your Family*

### Happy 18th Birthday

Justin K.  
*Love You! Aunt Yvonne*

### Happy 7th

Bronsen Luke Clyne  
March 11  
*From Daddyo, Mom & Blaque*

### Happy Belated Birthday

Tammy Kleeman  
Feb 25

### Happy Birthday

Trish Johnson  
March 26th  
*Love, Your Family*

### Happy Birthday

40 years old  
this month and  
Over the Hill  
*Love, Sis*

### Happy Birthday

Lisa McCatty  
March 1  
*From a Friend*

### Happy Belated Birthday

Clatus Clyne  
Feb. 25th  
The big 38! Have a great day!  
*Love Nicole, Bronsen and Blaque*

### Happy 8th Anniversary Feb. 24th

To Daddyo and Mommy  
*From Bronsen and Blaque Clyne*

### Congratulations Angie Willis

on being nominated to the  
**National Dean's List.**  
We are so proud of you....  
*Love, Phil & Mom*



### Happy Birthday PAPA JOHN

*From Nicole & Justin*

### Happy Birthday

Heather Ann McClellan  
18 years old on March 5  
And **CONGRATULATIONS** on your  
acceptance into MSU for the Fall of 2004!  
*Love from Mom, Phil, Logan & Shelbie*

Mary, **Happy Birthday!** *Love Ya, Rish*



*"If the white man wants to live in peace with the Indian, he can live in peace.....Treat all men alike. Give them all the same law. Give them all an even chance to live and grow. All men were made by the same Great Spirit Chief. They are all brothers. The Earth is the mother of all people, and all people should have equal rights upon it.....Let me be a free man, free to travel, free to stop, free to work, free to trade.....where I choose my own teachers, free to follow the religion of my fathers, free to think and talk and act for myself, and I will obey every law, or submit to the penalty."*

*From Chief Joseph, Nez Perces'*

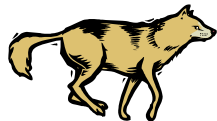
## Next Issue Highlights

*Conservation  
Department  
Otter Research*

**Coloring Contest  
Winners**

*Megwaa  
Ezhiwebaak  
with Regalia*

**And more!**



Happy Belated  
Birthday to  
Daniel deBres  
ONE YEAR OLD  
On February 11th

### Happy Birthday to these Tribal Employees:

**Mike Petoskey**

March 1

**Brandi Johnson & Pam Fahey**

March 4

**Francis Lawrence**

March 12

**Julie Lindeman & Lani**

**Bohannon**

March 14

**John Shepard**

March 17

**June Fletcher & David Smith**

March 20

**Wayne Trumbell**

March 21

**Gina Wright**

March 24

**Brian Hunt & Trish Johnson**

March 26

**JoAnne House**

March 29



*Return Service Requested*

Little River Band of  
Ottawa Indians  
375 River Street  
Manistee, MI 49660



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